

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation and abuse of campaign contribution law loopholes. This action strikes a fearful chord in me that the possibility of facism in my country is not as remote as I once thought. Sinclair stations will be broadcasting a program advertised as a news documentary that is nothing more than a message the administration in power (and their supporters) wants the public to hear. We used to refer to this in other countries as state propaganda. This is an abuse of our public airwaves.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.